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Thursday, February 5



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on Thursday, February 5

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The

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Thursday, January 22, 2015

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Cathy McCabe Special to the Advance

Melissa Ruesen from Lailey Vineyards and Vanessa Recoskie from Pondview Estate Winery stay warm during one of the milder January days for the NOTL Icewine Festival. The festival continues this weekend on Queen St., with special events at local wineries. For more information visit wineriesofniagaraonthelake.com.

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Learn more about local health care proposal

➤ Hospital steering committee to hold first public dialogue session

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Some of the questions about future health care in Niagara-on-the-Lake may be answered at a public dialogue session Wednesday.

The communications working group of the steering committee looking at health services once the NOTL Hospital closes is hosting a meeting at the community centre, calling it The Process Begins.

Maria Bau-Coote, executive director of the NOTL Family Health Team, and also chair of the NOTL Health Services Steering Committee, will discuss primary health care delivery, both current and for the future.

Five members of the community make up the communications committee, which is one of four working groups of the steering committee.

See Page 2



Hours: 11:30 a.m. till 2:00 a.m.

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Hear more about health care hub

From Page 1

Laurie Harley, one of the communications working group members, says their job is to ensure the public is informed about the work of the steering committee as it proceeds.

She understands that there are "very legitimate questions" about health care once the hospital closes, including the workings and financing of a not-for-profit health centre, and the goal of her group is to provide the answers.

Diane Hemmings, also a communications working group member, says "we're on that committee because we want answers too."

One of the answers Hemmings provided was to the question of who will pay for the new health centre.

One of the working groups is a corporate start-

up committee, which is looking at obtaining various grants from government entities and other organizations, such as Trillium, to fund the new NOTL Health Hub, she said.

The NOTL Hospital Foundation, which also is at the table with the steering committee, "is already committed to fundraising for equipment and programs," said Hemmings.

Some of the confusion and misunderstandings that have resulted regarding the hospital closure and the work of the steering committee have been a result of how quickly things have moved since the date of the closure was announced, said Harley.

Although residents have known for more than two years that the hospital would close, it wasn't until last September, when the April closing was made public, "that the line was

drawn. That was the beginning point, the launch of all of this."

Work had been going on behind the scenes with the steering committee, but soon after that announcement the first public consultations were held, and residents were told of the plan for a comprehensive health care centre with all the services currently offered at the hospital. It would also include the family health team doctors, the nurse practitioner clinic and possibly some new services that are being considered.

The communications working group members will be talking to the public every chance they get, including at churches and service organizations, "wherever we can get a group together," said Harley.

They want residents to understand the "comprehensive, one-stop shopping" under one not-for-profit roof, will "improve the quality of health care delivery, not demean it."

She also stresses that the Niagara Health System has guaranteed that nothing will change at the NOTL Hospital, other than the closure of beds, until services there now have

somewhere to go.

Harley, a Niagara-on-the-Lake Hospital Auxiliary member and former president, says that like many others in town, she has a long history with the hospital.

"I love it. It's served this community extremely well, but it's not a model to take us into the future," she says.

"It's bricks and mortar, and that doesn't mean anything to us. It's what we can deliver that matters."

In addition to the corporate working group looking at a not-for-profit administrative structure for the health hub, there is a site selection group looking at where it could be located, Harley said.

"My personal opinion is that I don't see how the hospital can be retrofitted without a ridiculous cost, but I could be wrong."

The hospital site is one of the locations being considered, she said, but whatever happens to it, "We all hope it will have some wonderful use in the future."

The Niagara Health System hasn't released any information on the future of the hospital, and the ownership of the prop-



Maria Bau-Coote, executive director of the NOTL Family Health Team and chair of the NOTL Health Services Steering Committee, will discuss current and future health care delivery in NOTL at the NOTL Public Library Wednesday, Jan. 28 at 2 p.m.

Niagara Advance file photo

erty remains a source of confusion, says Harley. The building was constructed on federal government property, and research of records in recent years hasn't produced a definitive answer.

The working groups are committed to meeting until the end of 2015, by which time they hope to have plans to move forward, she said.

And as more information rolls out in the coming weeks, Harley adds, "we hope people will see that we all have the same goals, to keep the health care we have and make it better. We think we have an opportunity to do something innovative. Other hospitals are also being closed across the province, and this may become a model for other towns, one that can make it easier for others down the road."

The first public dialogue session is Wednesday, Jan. 28, at the NOTL Public Library at 2 p.m.

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Next step to ask for injunction against closure

Cathy McCabe
Special to the Advance

Those hoping to save the Niagara-on-the-Lake Hospital are considering asking for a court injunction against its closure.

The Niagara Health Coalition (NHC) hosted a Save Our NOTL Hospital meeting Saturday at the Community Centre to raise awareness about the proposed closure.

The April closure of the NOTL hospital would mean the loss of 22 beds.

Sue Hotte, co-chair of the NHC, said 22 beds may not seem like many, but "those beds are very important. They meet the needs of this community."

The primary purpose of Saturday's meeting was to gauge public opinion on the closure.

Sandra O'Connor, a volunteer with the NHC, said she thought the meeting went very well.

"People voiced their concerns, their issues, and there was a lot of support. You'll never get 100 per cent because people have different points of view, but I think there was overwhelming support for trying to keep the hospital open at least until we do a proper evidence-based



NOTL resident and member of Save our NOTL Hospital, Sue Hotte of the Niagara Health Coalition and Natalie Mehra, executive director of the Ontario Health Coalition, addressed the audience at Saturday's meeting at the community centre, organized by the Niagara Health Coalition. Cathy McCabe Special to the Advance

study to determine what the needs are."

Natalie Mehra, executive director of the Ontario Health Coalition, attended the meeting and said she thought they received some "great ideas" from the citizens in attendance.

"I think we got a very clear call from the vast majority of people in the room to ask the city council to be more active and to

really try to come up with a strategy that's going to protect the full range of services in NOTL and that was great."

She said the next step will be to look into a court injunction.

"An injunction will prevent the closure in April and hopefully keep the hospital open for a longer period of time while everything is sorted out as to its future and the future of the services it provides."

Mehra said Niagara has the worst hospitals cuts in province.

"It really is out of proportion to everywhere else in the province and I don't know why that is, but it is the fact," she said.

"This decision to close down the hospitals all across Niagara is not based on any evidence whatsoever. There was never any evidence-based study, there's never been a needs assessment, and there's never been any plan to measure or mitigate patient risk or increased risk for patients because of the removal of local services," said Mehra.

"No health system in the world

plans like this. Nobody does this ad hoc; we're going to close down a community hospital with no planning whatsoever for the community that is affected. It's unheard of anywhere. I've been doing this for 15 years now and it's unheard of."

More than 80 people attended the 10 a.m. meeting, though no members of council were in attendance.

O'Connor said that their group would like to have council's support.

"We would like a motion to support keeping the hospital open until a couple of things are done, like a needs-based study."

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Council receives coalition report, agrees to help with seniors grant

Suzanne Mason
Special to the Advance

Representatives from the
Niagara Health Coalition
appealed to Niagara-on-

the-Lake council Monday for help with their fight to prevent the local hospital from closing in April.

Councillors approved a motion to receive the request by coalition co-chair Sue Hotte and volunteer Sandra O'Connor, rather than send it to staff for a report.

Coun. Betty Disero said referring the issue to staff would send a mixed message to residents and the province about the town's support for keeping the hospital open.

Last Saturday, the coalition held a meeting at the

community centre that was attended by about 80 residents.

O'Connor had said the meeting showed there was a lot of support for keeping the 22-bed hospital and services of a nurse practitioner operating at least until an evidence-based study had been done to determine what the needs are.

"Why are they (the Niagara Health System) closing (it) before a new hospital is open in South Niagara?" Hotte asked Monday.

She said in 1999, there were 1,600 hospital beds at

Niagara hospitals and now there are only 635. Hotte added that long-term care beds and services of Community Care Access are underfunded.

O'Connor said seniors make up over 20 per cent of the population of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

"We can't afford any loss of beds," she said. "Patients requiring care could be in Fort Erie or Fort Colborne. How is an elderly spouse going to visit when they don't drive?"

Councillors also received requests from David Hemmings from the local

hospital auxiliary for the town's support for age-friendly planning initiatives.

Hemmings said the auxiliary will be defunct in April with the planned hospital closure.

Council approved his request to take the lead on a \$25,000 provincial grant for volunteers to assist at-risk seniors living at home as well as an age-friendly initiative resolution.

Hemmings said his group also plans to produce a directory of services available in the Niagara region for seniors.



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Negotiations continue for former NDSS site

Suzanne Mason
Special to the Advance

Negotiations are continuing between the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake and District School Board of

Niagara on the purchase of the property that formerly housed the town's only high school.

Earlier this month, the town had offered the school board \$1.4 million to buy the 28-acre property at 1875 Niagara Stone Rd. in Virgil.

Town councillors discussed the sale in-camera Monday. Lord Mayor Pat Darte said following the closed session that staff would be directed to continue negotiating with the DSNB for the sale of the property.

After the meeting, Darte declined to disclose what the town was now offering the school board, but he did say he was happy with the negotiations and expected a decision by the end of February.

Niagara District Secondary School was closed five years ago by the DSNB due to declining enrolment following a long battle by town council and residents to keep it open. The school board used the building for a few years to house its resource centre, but that facility was moved to the former West Park Secondary School site in St. Catharines last year.

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Queenston residents want work to begin on park

Suzanne Mason
Special to the Advance

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake is being urged by Queenston residents to start the planning process to build a park on a small piece of land that was formerly part of the historic Laura Secord Memorial School property.

The .8 acre property is adjacent to the Willowbank School of Restoration Arts' satellite campus, and was purchased by the town from the District School Board of Niagara three years ago for use as a park when Willowbank purchased the former elementary school building to expand its classes.

"There are zero parks in Queenston," local resident Ron Fritz told town councillors Monday.

"The grounds have been poorly maintained over the past year and the playground equipment needs repairs."

He said he has been asked by the Queenston Residents Association to chair a steering committee to start looking into options for the site, including new playground equipment and exercise stations.

Fritz and Jim Armstrong, president of the residents association, asked council to designate funds from the parks reserve fund to start the planning process.

Armstrong said the residents group would be willing to host or co-host meetings with the community to get input on potential uses for the parkland.

"We urge you to get this process started," said Armstrong.

Council referred their request to staff for a report.

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opinion page

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our editorial

Kudos to all who helped kids on bus

When a school bus was hit by a car while transporting children on their way to St. Michael Catholic Elementary School last Thursday, we learned some valuable lessons.

One, a school bus is very safe. This was just a small one, and even without seat belts, the students' injuries were minor, although the police say the damage to the bus was "significant." Fortunately, after being hit on the side and spun around, the bus ended up in the ditch right side up, so although kids were jostled in their seats, they weren't thrown around as much as they might have been had it been a truck that hit the bus, rather than a car.

We learned the value of the bus driver staying calm, or at least appearing calm, for the benefit of the children - even one 11-year-old who was hurt told her mother that helped her not to feel too scared.

We also heard that the emergency personnel on the scene did a great job in reassuring the kids, as did the principal and a staff member from the school,

and that it was better for the kids that their parents didn't know about the crash in time to rush to the bus.

And we learned the school board and bus company also did everything that could be done to ensure there are measures in place that when followed, work well for both students and parents.

Some might question whether the minor injuries that occurred could have been avoided by seat belts. Our local students on that bus might one day become statistics in a study to determine the value of seat belts on buses, but the studies will likely show that while sometimes the outcomes are not as favourable as they were in Niagara-on-the-Lake last Thursday, school buses are incredibly safe. Would seat belts make them safer? Probably. Some states have moved to legislate seat belts in school buses, but Canada has not - yet. It's likely that day will come.

In the meantime, kudos to all involved, especially the bus driver, for doing such a great job of looking after the kids on that bus.

Service club helps youth



St. Davids Lions turned out in full force to St. Davids Public School to deliver a pizza lunch to the students and staff last week. The lunch was a celebration of the birthday of Melvin Jones, the Lions Club founder. The 100th anniversary of Lions is in 2017, and in celebration, Lions have been asked to take on a service project that involves youth. The pizza lunch was the beginning of what the St. Davids Lions hope will lead to more opportunities to work with the young people of their community. St. Davids Lions already support the school in many ways, including paying for smart boards and sports team T-shirts, so it was also an opportunity for students to thank them.

Photo submitted

letters to the editor

Auxiliary members have some answers

This letter is sent in response to the letter to the editor Questions need answers regarding health care (Niagara Advance, Jan. 8).

We'd like to help by offering facts to explain one of the questions raised in the letter. The writer asks what will happen to NOTL Hospital Auxiliary funds when the hospital beds close. As many know, the

auxiliary is an organization that has been in our community for 95 years and has been registered as a charity since 1989.

Like all organizations with registered charity status, how funds are handled at dissolution is governed by law. The only parties to this process are the trustees of the charity (the auxiliary) and the beneficiary (the hospital). Before we assume the result, let's give this defined process time to happen and hope, as residents of NOTL, that the parties will find ways to keep the funds for local use.

The letter to the editor also calls on the auxiliary to be transparent in its actions.

The same request can be made of the organizers of the Save our Hospital initiative.

Last Saturday, as guests arrived at the community centre to celebrate the 95th anniversary of the NOTL Hospital Auxiliary, they were greeted with petition and asked to sign. Many thought the petition was sponsored by the auxiliary which was not the case. This was an event dedicated to celebrate protest. And it was a great party enjoyed

by all those who attended.

**Dena Broeders
Laurie Harley
Judy Thornton**

Thanks for tour help

The Rotary Club of Niagara-on-the-Lake wishes to thank all those who contributed to the success of our recent 16th annual Rotary Holiday House Tour. Your generous support ensures that our club will be able to continue to support our many local and international projects.

We extend sincere gratitude to the homeowners who so generously provided their beautiful homes. These homes were then appropriately decorated by local interior designers, florists, garden centres and decorators who put in many hours of work and donated thousands of dollars of product to create a true holiday atmosphere. As always, the participation of our auxiliary sites greatly enhanced the tour by providing our many visitors with a broader community experience.

Our business and corporate sponsors helped to cover many of our expenses

and provided prizes for our patrons and volunteers to enjoy. Even the sale of our tickets was assisted by local businesses.

Of course a huge thank you goes to the many friends of Rotary - our volunteers who worked in the homes, and our numerous patrons who each year visit NOTL and enjoy our house tour.

Residents who are interested in becoming members of Rotary should contact our membership chair, David Haddow at 468-4703.

**Don MacDonald
Rotary Holiday House
Tour Committee**

Place mulch around base of plants to protect them from wind

Learn about succulents at first horticultural society meeting of the year

The weather is so changeable at present it is difficult to know how to dress, never mind trying to keep up with plant life.

My amaryllis is blooming, however it is so tall (28") I have placed the bowl on the floor so the five blooms can be enjoyed. Then I looked at my little orchid, and it has buds!

I had checked with a friend on how to look after it when it had stopped



Jean Cochrane
Happy Gardening

blooming. Her advice was "stop fussing," and you know, she is right.

I think I am suffering from withdrawal at this time of year, so the weather better start improving or maybe a visit to the

local nurseries would help - though that could be dangerous.

Keep the bird feeders filled up though as there is a while to go before nature takes over.

Check over your borders now the snow has gone, just in case the soil has moved away from the base of some plants. If so put some mulch around to keep them tight - there could be windy weather ahead and it is better to keep things snug.

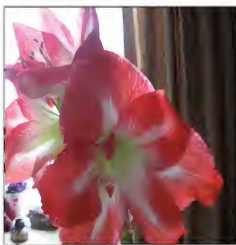
The Niagara-on-the-Lake Horticultural Society meets the fourth Tuesday of every month, which means there's a meeting this Tuesday.

Come learn from our experienced guest speakers or share your knowledge and tips with fellow gardeners. New members welcome are welcome. Coffee's on for 6:30 p.m. meetings begin at 7 p.m. at the community centre on Anderson Lane.

Dave Naylor, founder of the Toronto Cactus and Succulent Club, will be speaking at Tuesday's meeting on succulents for the garden and home.

Happy gardening.

Jean Cochrane's amaryllis has grown so tall, she's put it on the floor so she can enjoy its colourful blooms.



letters to the editor

95th auxiliary anniversary a success, thanks to all

Our 95th Celebration was a superb day filled with congratulations and best wishes for our Auxiliary.

We were fortunate to have two of our members with over 60 years service each, Vera Derbyshire and Helen Dawson greeting our guests as they arrived. Our photos, books, mementos, and a video of past auxiliary events were enjoyed by everyone.

Our thanks to those who made our day a success - NOTL Hospital Physiotherapy, Regal Florist & Garden Centre, signage contributors - Simpsons, Niagara Fruit and Vegetable Growers, Reimer Verge Insurance, Al Snider/Old High School Sign, and the NOTL Community Centre. To our members who planned and contributed to our celebration, thank you.

Most of all, our thanks to the NOTL community residents who are always there to support us.

Marilyn Hulbert, President
NOTL Hospital Auxiliary

Answers to some health centre proposal questions

There were two letters last week (Niagara Advance, Jan. 15) with a number of questions around the NOTL Health Services Steering Committee proposals, and many people may have similar questions.

Hopefully I can clarify the answers to them.

- 1) Walk-In Clinic for tourists, residents without a local doctor, and migrant workers. The Niagara Health System Nurse Practitioner Clinic will continue to see all of these people, and will be unaffected by closing the inpatient beds (or any change in buildings). The doctors will

also continue to see migrant workers, as they have for many years. (The community sessions identified increased hours of coverage for tourists as another goal).

- 2) Moving routine procedures out of hospitals - the Ministry of Health has identified some procedures that can be done just as safely and effectively in outpatient clinics as in hospitals. At the moment the ones being considered are cataract surgery and colonoscopies. These would still be fully funded by the government and user pay charges would not be allowed. The committee is not actively looking at these at the moment, but there is the possibility they could be brought into NOTL in the future.

- 3) NOTL Family Health Team is not a private business, but an organization funded fully and only by the Ministry of Health. It has a very defined and structured budget, based primarily on the number of rostered patients, and pays for its dietitian, nurses, counselors, programs, etc. based on that budget. Any unspent money is returned to the ministry every year. It

is not allowed to have a profit. It does not pay the doctors any money.

- 4) NOTL family doctors - as a group have signed an agreement with the Ministry of Health to work in partnership with the Family Health Team. This includes issues such as agreeing to have patients sign up (roster) to be part of the Family Health Team, agreeing to after-hour coverage and clinic hours, preventative care issues, and such. The doctors are paid for their services/roster directly by the Ministry of Health. From this money they pay for their nurses, receptionists, support staff, rent, supplies, computers, etc.

- 5) The Health Services Steering Committee's goal is to have a not-for-profit corporation responsible for administering whatever future building is used for the health care facility. It would be tasked with doing it in a financially viable way, but with the goal of best serving the health needs of the NOTL community. It would charge rent, but with those goals in mind, NOTL Palliative Care is a volunteer organization

that benefits the community, but doesn't have the funds to spend on rent - I would assume it would be given space at minimal rent. The Family Health Team would pay rent based on what the Ministry of Health deems a fair market value in our community. The doctors and other tenants would be expected to pay an appropriate rent as well.

- 6) Funding - at this point nobody has guaranteed any money to the yet-to-be-created not-for-profit corporation. Certainly any grants to help develop plans would be helpful, and having at least support in principle from town council would be helpful. Building/renovating the proposed centre may qualify for some grants, but I assume it would primarily be financed by fundraising and borrowing.

- 7) NOTL Auxiliary - given that their mandate in the past has been specifically to assist with the hospital, they are changing their goals and legal structure. There was a very good article in last week's Advance about their exciting future plans. They have

been responsible for their own funds and how they wish to spend them.

- 8) NOTL Hospital Foundation - similarly, their mandate has been fund raising for a hospital, and I am sure for community health care. They are also in the process of determining changes in their goals and legal structure. And they are responsible for their funds and how they are spent.

- 9) "Transitional" beds - for those needing more care and time before returning home from a hospital admission. There is not a definite answer yet for this, but there is lots of activity going on working towards a solution. The NHS and the LHIN have both committed to helping find a solution. This needs to be kept in the spotlight until there is a firm answer.

I hope this helps answer the questions raised.

I am sure there will be more questions, and I hope that we on the Health Services Steering Committee can answer them clearly to all.

Dr. David Reimer

Five St. Michael students injured when school bus was hit by car

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

The mother of one of the students hurt in a school bus collision last Thursday has nothing but praise for the way the situation was handled - from the bus driver to emergency personnel to the staff at the school, she said, "everyone was great."

Miranda de Groot's daughter Indy was one of five students injured when a bus on its way to St. Michael Catholic Elementary School was

hit by a car.

Niagara Regional Police, paramedics and the NOTL Fire Service were called about 8:50 a.m. Jan. 15 to the intersection of Line 4 and Concession 6. The collision had occurred just down the road from the school as the bus was on its way for morning classes with nine students.

The bus was hit on its side and spun around into a ditch, where it remained upright.

Paramedics treated and transported five students with minor injuries from the scene to St. Catharines General Hospital.

De Groot said she first heard about the collision from her daughter, who had been handed a cell phone by a paramedic who was checking her injuries.

While Indy sounded a little shaken, said her mother, she quickly reassured her she was okay, but said her shoulder hurt. She told her mother that the ambulance she was in was taking her to the hospital.

While De Groot's reaction at first was to question why her daughter was the first to call her, she was later grateful for the wisdom of the para-

medic - just a few minutes later, when the principal called, she already knew that her daughter was okay. Otherwise, she said, she would have been much more scared.

"I was glad I'd already talked to her," she said, "otherwise I might have panicked."

She also realized in hindsight that it was best parents were notified when the kids were about to leave for the hospital - it was more than half an hour after the collision when she heard, she said - rather than having them rush to the bus.

She knows, from talking to her daughter and the paramedic at the hospital, that everyone, including the bus driver, did a great job of keeping the kids calm.

The afternoon of the collision she also received calls from the school board and the bus company, and over the weekend, the principal called each day to see how her daughter was doing.

Indy's doing fine, de Groot said. Of the five students taken to St. Catharines General Hospital, her injury was the most serious, with a crack in her collar bone. She's not in pain, said her mother, but the 11-year-old plays basketball with the St. Catharines Rebels, and her main concern is that she won't be able to play for six weeks - she's already

missed one tournament.

St. Michael principal Blaine MacDougall said he and Sandra Kocis, an educational assistant who usually meets the students as the buses arrive, headed to the scene of the collision as soon as they heard about it.

When they got to the bus, they found the young students a little rattled, he said, but the police, firefighters and paramedics "had everything under control."

"We wanted to be there with the students, just as familiar faces to provide some comfort, and to help keep a sense of calmness for them," he said.

"Kudos to the kids. They were shaken up, because it all happened so quickly, but they were real trouper."

The uninjured students were picked up by another bus and taken to school.

The other four who went to hospital were back for afternoon classes. Indy's mother returned her to school to pick up her school bag, and then took her home for the rest of the day, but not before Indy visited her class-

room so her friends would know she was okay.

"I think the other students were more upset about what had happened than she was," said de Groot.

Indy was back at school Monday, since Friday was a day off.

The families of the students on the bus were notified right away, MacDougall said, and at the end of the day, a letter was sent home to all parents giving them the details of what had happened.

"This is the principal's first year at St. Michael, but he has been with the Catholic board for about 25 years, and he's never had to deal with a school bus collision, he said.

"When we first saw the bus in the ditch, we realized it had spun around after it was hit. I thought it was a miracle that it was upright. How it didn't roll over is beyond me," he said.

"We have to be thankful - it could have been so much worse."



St. Michael principal Blaine MacDougall went to the collision involving a school bus so he could provide comfort to the students.
Photo submitted



NOTL Health Services Steering Committee

VOLUNTEER EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

CORPORATE START UP WORKING GROUP - One Vacancy

Interested applicants should possess experience in: business, finance, legal, and not for profit.

Interested residents may submit their resume by mail or email no later than Friday, February 6, 2015 to:

Maria Bau-Coote, Chair
NOTL Health Services Steering Committee
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Bus and car suffered significant damage, police said

From Page 8

Board chair Father Paul MacNeil was notified of the collision and expressed thanks to all those who responded so quickly.

"The safety of our students is always our highest

priority," said Father MacNeil in a press release from the board, "and I trust that our professional and caring staff responded to this situation with their usual outstanding leadership and sensitivity."

Director of Education John Crocco said his

immediate thoughts were with the students and their families.

"During an event such as this, our first thoughts are with those directly impacted, in this case, the students who were understandably shaken by this experience and their fam-

ilies," said Crocco in the press release.

"I would also like to personally thank the staff from St. Michael Catholic Elementary School and Niagara Student Transportation Services and the emergency responders for their quick

action and their professionalism."

Damage to both the car and the bus was significant, said Niagara Regional Police Const. Phillip Gavin. The 55-year-old male bus driver was not injured. The 49-year-old female driver of the car, also unin-

jured, was charged for failing to stop for a stop sign.

Niagara Student Transportation Services and Niagara Catholic District School Board are continuing to work with the police in this investigation.



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MY PLAN NOTL

Official Plan Review

Agriculture and the Natural Environment Public Engagement

In 2013, Town residents shared their views on the future growth of our community. We asked you to tell us your vision for the Town and used this input to determine a number of priority areas. Throughout 2014, we held three community engagement sessions based on the following issues reports:

Background to the Official Plan
Heritage, Arts and Culture
The Built Environment

Please join us for our fourth community engagement session on Agriculture and the Natural Environment.

Date: Thursday, February 12, 2015

Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Place: Virgil Fire Hall, 1301 Concession 6 Road

Some of the issues we want to explore with you are:

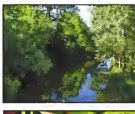
- What type of climate change policies should be included in the Official Plan and should we develop a climate change strategy?
- Should we develop a sustainability plan?
- How should the Town participate in the upcoming review of the Greenbelt Plan?
- What challenges are faced by the local agricultural community, including the long-term viability of farms vs. protection of the natural environment, and how should these challenges be addressed?
- How should the Town address rural character and agricultural landscape preservation?
- Should our policies regarding second units and farm help housing be more restrictive than those in the Greenbelt Plan?
- What types of value-added agricultural uses and farm diversification should be permitted and how will they improve farm viability?

A copy of the Agriculture and the Natural Environment Report and other information are available on the Town's website at www.notl.org.

You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter or send us an e-mail at myplan@notl.org.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information regarding these Community Engagement Sessions or other aspects of the Official Plan review and updates, please contact Leah Wallace, Senior Planner, at 905-468-3266 extension 245.



Youth Programs – Winter 2015

Monday	Wednesday	Thursday
Little Movers (3-5 years) \$43.20 + HST 5:15 – 5:45 p.m.	Explore the Arts (3-5 years) \$48.00 + HST 5:15 – 5:45 p.m.	Jr. Dance (3-5 years) \$43.20 + HST 5:15 – 5:45 p.m.
Explore the Arts (6-12 years) \$54.00 + HST 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Kitchen Creations (6-11 years) \$72.00 + HST 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Jr. Hip Hop (3 – 5 years) \$43.20 + HST 5:45 – 6:15 p.m.
	Kitchen Creations (12-16 years) \$72.00 + HST 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Sr. Hip Hop (6 – 12 years) \$60.00 + HST 6:15 – 7:15 p.m.
		Sr. Dance (6-12 years) \$60.00 + HST 7:15 – 8:15 p.m.

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Kylie Black, Lauren Janzen, Gabriella Vassell and Ayla Jamal, St. Davids Public School Grade 3 students, help St. Davids Lions Andrew Allan and Al and Susan Snider deliver a pizza lunch the Lions gave to students and staff Tuesday, celebrating Lions founder Melvin Jones's birthday. The Lions were also at the school to see if they could find enough interest to start a Leo Club at lunch time.
Photo submitted

St. Davids Lions hope to start Leo club in school

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Leadership, experience, opportunity: those are the values of Leo Clubs, the Lions Clubs International program for young people.

The St. Davids Lions Club is

hoping to get a Leo Club going at the St. Davids Public School - the two organizations already have a good relationship, and this opens up an opportunity for them to develop that partnership and give the kids another way to get involved and give back to the community, says Lion Al Snider.

Although the community of St. Davids is growing, the infrastructure isn't growing with it, says Snider, and other than the park and swimming pool in better weather, there isn't anything for the kids to do.

And although there are lots of sports and other activities for kids to join, it's good for them to have options - not all kids are good at sports, says Snider.

"Kids like to keep busy. They just need to be pointed in the right direction."

In total, more than 160,000 young people in almost 6,000 clubs in 140 countries around the world. Leos can be from age 12 to 30, but in St. Davids, the Lions are focusing on Grade 8 students.

See Page 12

Linda Attioe, Psychotherapist



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Katie Redekopp* 905-658-1564



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34 JOHNSON ST. | \$1,195,000

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Perry Quinn* 905-468-4214



36 SANDALWOOD COMMON | \$317,000

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Katie Redekopp* 905-658-1564



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Perry Quinn* 905-468-4214



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Additional Brock Savings // \$1,460
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+ HST AND LIC.

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Additional Brock Savings // \$12,250

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Sarah Biega from Stewin Winery and Richard Simpson from Riverview Cellars pour icewine to guests at the NOTL Icewine Festival on Queen St. Saturday afternoon. The festival continues this weekend at the Icewine Village on Queen St. and with special events at local wineries. For more information visit wineriesofniagaraoonthelake.com.

Cathy McCabe
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Special Thanks go to: Cogeco Cable 10, Chuck Lefeur & Angus Gillespie (Parade Announcers), Brookmead B&B, Steve Watson, Ward Simpson, Mike Paul, Niagara Regional Police Service and Auxiliary, Niagara Parks Police, Royal Canadian Legion, Gensine Limited, Rafter Hometel, Sensational Carriages, Performance Cars, Niagara Motors, Gensine Ltd, Enns Battery & Tire, NotL Golf Club, Mori Nurseries, the Vanderzanden, Steve McCarthy, Glen Hunter, Joe Lachini, Derek Costello, Bill Fulk, Friends of Fort George, Jim Huntington, Virgil Paint & Decorating, Ruff Estate Winery, Niagara Home Bakery, and Royal George Theatre. Thanks also to the Batton Sales team spearheaded by John Strecker, Gerry Brand, Meant Ober and Phil Brand. Also a very huge thanks to the numerous Parade Marshalls and to the Banner Carriers from St. Michaels Catholic School and the Royal Canadian Air Cadets as well as to the Parade Judges from the Lions Club, Rotary, and the Kiwanis.

These volunteers' continued support and assistance during Parade Day makes it all happen! An especially grateful thank-you to the Committee members who consist of: Bob Charlton, John Fryer, Darla Jensen, Christine & Corey Klassen, Bruce Progielch, Pat Tebbutt, Kerin Thorette and Jessica Williams.

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Brain function of child with ADHD 'just different'

Randy Klaassen
Special to the Advance

"People who experience Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) are real people who deserve our attention," began Amar Chakraborty, at last week's InfoHealth session.

The first-year medical student is from the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine's Niagara regional campus of McMaster University.

He shared the presentation with Melanie Fortune, also a first-year student, at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Library Wednesday.

The presentation followed a composite story of a young boy who was diagnosed with ADHD, and the challenges faced by his mother.

"The difficulty with diagnosing ADHD is that it is not like a medical test resulting in a positive presence of a disorder, like testing if someone has the flu," said Fortune.

"In fact there is no single diagnostic test to prove someone has ADHD. The mental disorder is a combination of traits and behaviors indicating various circuits in the brain are not functioning normally."

Chakraborty explained early signs of ADHD typically occur in childhood, though not always, and include inattentiveness, impulsiveness and hyperactivity, at school, at home, and in sports. It is important to assess what is normal behavior for the age of the child, he said.

The medical students described ADHD from a parent's perspective. This usually begins when a teacher speaks with them about the child's challenges in the classroom.

The next step is referral to a medical professional.

While diagnosing ADHD it's important to rule out other conditions, they said.

Noted by both Fortune and Chakraborty were the many questions raised by parents: "Why does this happen? What's ADHD doing to my child's body? How common is ADHD? Is there treatment other than drugs to help? Will medications make my child a zombie? Is this something my child will grow out of?"

Assurances can be given, such as explaining that the brain functioning of a child

with ADHD is just different.

As to why ADHD occurs, there are several possibilities, but nothing is conclusive, they said - the brain is complex, and treatment may take different forms, requiring the effort of parents, school and others involved in the care of the child.

During the question and answer time the students' supervisors, Dr. Greg Sevenson, explained why the number of children with ADHD has significantly increased in recent years.

"One observation is the changes to our educational system over the years, which have been developed mainly by female educators."

He speculated on the possible link between the educational approaches, which are geared more to girls, and consequently boys have more challenges at school. This may result in more boys than girls being diagnosed with ADHD.

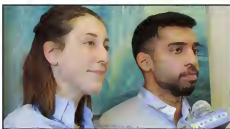
Also observed by one par-

ticipant was that people with ADHD are not necessarily at a disadvantage in society, because they are great multitaskers.

This positive aspect of ADHD was affirmed by Fortune who said "there are a number of careers that demand high energy and detailed attention to specific subjects, which is often a trait of people with ADHD. So the news is not all negative. It's a matter of channeling that

energy and focus to constructive ends."

The next InfoHealth public lecture is on eye disease and blindness, at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 11 at the NOTL Public Library, with medical student Emerson Marinas and Dr. Amber Sheikh, Chief of Ophthalmology at the Niagara Eye Centre in St. Catharines. You can see the InfoHealth presentations on Cogeco TV, Fridays at 6 p.m. and



Medical students Melanie Fortune and Amar Chakraborty spoke at the InfoHealth session on Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder at the NOTL Public Library.

Saturdays at 11 a.m. Each lecture is re-broadcast for four weeks following each talk,

and then available for six months through Cogeco's On-Demand service.

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An endearing story of a young boy whose parents have just divorced and who finds an unlikely friend in the reclusive and bawdy war veteran who lives next door. Bill Murray and Melissa McCarthy star.

Citizenfour
FRI JAN 30 @ 6PM • FESTIVAL THEATRE
A must-see doc about former NSA intelligence analyst and whistleblower Edward Snowden that looks at the man and hears him speak out personally after he exposed the government intrusion.

The Lunchbox (subtitled)
SAT JAN 31 @ 3PM • FESTIVAL THEATRE
A mistaken delivery by the Mumbai lunchbox service leads to a relationship between a widower and an unhappy housewife. They exchange notes and develop a bond through the daily lunchbox.

LunchMarket Enjoy a bite before the Saturday films!

GATHERING NIAGARA'S LunchMarket at the Shaw Festival WILL FEATURE LOCAL FOOD TRUCKS AND VENDORS. Doors open at 5:30pm.

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Tools needed for Guatemalan trade school

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

How many hammers does one home need?

How many different screwdrivers? How many kinds of saws?

How many tools are there in your basement workshop that haven't been used for years, and probably never will be again?

Ted van der Zalm can find a use for them, from

the oldest, simplest, smallest hand or power tool to industrial drill presses, table saws or planers.

Van der Zalm has been drilling wells to deliver clean water to the poor of

Guatemala for a decade. But along the way, he has learned how to do so much more.

Construction teams, which include retired Niagara home builders, stay at a permanent camp

he has established and build two elementary schools a year.

Doctors and dentists, also mostly from Niagara, volunteer their time to offer clinics to those living in remote mountain villages.

There are cooking, sewing and hygiene classes, and if some unfortunate family is found homeless, it's not unusual for volunteers to pitch in and build a shelter.

Van der Zalm sees a need and finds a way to fill it, with the aid of his wife Miriam, the skills of about 80 volunteers who stay at the camp for about 10 days at a time, and the financial support of Wells of Hope, which fundraises to finance his work.

He will leave for Guatemala at the end of the month, but there is a construction team there now building a trade school, he says.

"We build two elementary schools a year, but there is nothing for these poor kids when they're finished. We want to teach them a trade, but they have no tools."

The larger tools will be used for instruction in the school, the others for the kids to use when they're finished and ready to go out to work, said van der Zalm.

"It's no good teaching them a trade and then sending them off with no tools," he said.

"They have no money for tools - not even a simple hammer."

"It's not unusual to see men in Guatemala pounding in nails with a rock, he says - yet he knows there are so many tools in so many basements here, collecting dust, that could be put to good use - sometimes generations of tools that aren't used, but nobody wants to throw them out."

"We can put them to such tremendous use," he says.

The school will also

teach agriculture, he said.

Now that there are 65,000 Guatemalans who have clean water delivered to their door 12 months a year, said van der Zalm, "we want to teach them how to grow food year round."

To aid those students - mostly girls - donations of garden tools, such as trowels, shovels and rakes, would also be welcome.

There is a 40-foot container of supplies going to Guatemala, and he'd love to see it filled with tools he can give to the kids who attend the trade school.

Penner Building Centre on Niagara Stone Rd. in Virgil, which has supported him and Wells of Hope from its beginnings a decade ago, is once again helping out, offering to be the drop-off point for tools - with a deadline of Jan. 31, to get the container loaded in time for departure.

There will be a buggy by the front door to collect the tools, which will then be moved to the warehouse until they're picked up.

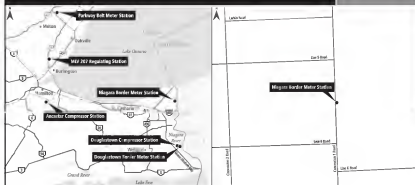
Van der Zalm is a religion teacher at Denis Morris Catholic High School who works one term, then heads to Guatemala to get in as much well-drilling as he can before the rainy season begins.

He and Miriam are parents to five children, including three university-aged now, and in addition to teaching he runs a well-drilling and water delivery business in Niagara to help finance his time away from work - on one of the coldest days last week, he was drilling holes through hard rock for electrical wiring in the Niagara Gorge, and he is called out year round to repair or replace well pumps.

The couple also runs a bed and breakfast - when they return from Guatemala in May, the season is just beginning, and they have found their guests are interested in their work and can be very generous, he said.

See Page 23

Public Notice Greater Golden Horseshoe Facilities Project Proposed Niagara Border Meter Station Upgrades



As part of the Greater Golden Horseshoe Facilities Project, TransCanada is proposing to add new natural gas measurement and control facilities to its Canadian Mainline system in Southern Ontario. These modifications will take place at six existing TransCanada sites around the Greater Golden Horseshoe. Based on firm contractual commitments, the project will increase TransCanada's capability to receive gas from the Niagara area for delivery to markets in Ontario, including the Greater Toronto Area.

The meter station measures gas flow to TransCanada's existing transmission pipeline system. The station is located on the east side of Concession 1 Road, just north of Line 6 Road. The upgrades to the facility will take place entirely on TransCanada's existing station property.

The proposed upgrades at the Niagara Border site involve installing new components to allow for increased natural gas flow measurement capacity. All work will be performed on TransCanada's property.

The modifications to the facility will take place entirely on TransCanada's existing station property. An application for approval to construct and operate this project is expected to be filed with the National Energy Board (NEB) in early 2015. Pending regulatory approvals, construction is scheduled to commence in fall 2015, with facilities targeted to be in-service November 2015.

TransCanada encourages public input with respect to the Project and the planned NEB application. Anyone interested in the Project is invited to contact us prior to January 28, 2015.

We encourage you to contact us at any time during this Project with your questions or comments.

Greater Golden Horseshoe Facilities Project:

Phone: 416.869.2123

Email: sara_beasley@transcanada.com

Or write to:

TransCanada

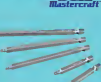
Attn: Greater Golden Horseshoe Facilities Project

200 Bay Street 24th Floor, South Tower

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\$1 each  CLEAN TEAM Bleach, 3.79L or Ammonia, 1.89L. 296-1845-4/189-6-8	\$2  GARBAGE BAGS Outdoor garbage bags, 75L. Box of 40. 42-9722-2. Reg 3.99.	\$4  RAIN-X ALL SEASON WINDSHIELD WASHER FLUID Formulated to -45°C. 29-4141-4. Reg 5.49.	\$6 each  DURACELL ALKALINE BATTERIES 8 AA, 4 AAA, 4 C, 4 D, two 9V or Quantum 6 AA. 65-0602X. Reg 8.69.

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\$5 each  1. 10-PC PAINT BRUSH SET Complete your paint project! Polyester blend. Includes multiple sizes. Sorry, no rainchecks. 296-1260-2. 2. 4-PACK OF RICHARD PAINT ROLLER COVERS Setty, 16-inch thick. 296-1260-2.	\$5  LED LANTERN 6V/12V/24V/36V/48V/60V/72V/84V/96V/108V/120V/144V/168V/192V/216V/240V/264V/288V/312V/336V/360V/384V/408V/432V/456V/480V/504V/528V/552V/576V/600V/624V/648V/672V/696V/720V/744V/768V/792V/816V/840V/864V/888V/912V/936V/960V/984V/1008V/1032V/1056V/1080V/1104V/1128V/1152V/1176V/1200V/1224V/1248V/1272V/1296V/1320V/1344V/1368V/1392V/1416V/1440V/1464V/1488V/1512V/1536V/1560V/1584V/1608V/1632V/1656V/1680V/1704V/1728V/1752V/1776V/1800V/1824V/1848V/1872V/1896V/1920V/1944V/1968V/1992V/2016V/2040V/2064V/2088V/2112V/2136V/2160V/2184V/2208V/2232V/2256V/2280V/2304V/2328V/2352V/2376V/2400V/2424V/2448V/2472V/2496V/2520V/2544V/2568V/2592V/2616V/2640V/2664V/2688V/2712V/2736V/2760V/2784V/2808V/2832V/2856V/2880V/2904V/2928V/2952V/2976V/3000V/3024V/3048V/3072V/3096V/3120V/3144V/3168V/3192V/3216V/3240V/3264V/3288V/3312V/3336V/3360V/3384V/3408V/3432V/3456V/3480V/3504V/3528V/3552V/3576V/3600V/3624V/3648V/3672V/3696V/3720V/3744V/3768V/3792V/3816V/3840V/3864V/3888V/3912V/3936V/3960V/3984V/4008V/4032V/4056V/4080V/4104V/4128V/4152V/4176V/4200V/4224V/4248V/4272V/4296V/4320V/4344V/4368V/4392V/4416V/4440V/4464V/4488V/4512V/4536V/4560V/4584V/4608V/4632V/4656V/4680V/4704V/4728V/4752V/4776V/4800V/4824V/4848V/4872V/4896V/4920V/4944V/4968V/4992V/5016V/5040V/5064V/5088V/5112V/5136V/5160V/5184V/5208V/5232V/5256V/5280V/5304V/5328V/5352V/5376V/5400V/5424V/5448V/5472V/5496V/5520V/5544V/5568V/5592V/5616V/5640V/5664V/5688V/5712V/5736V/5760V/5784V/5808V/5832V/5856V/5880V/5904V/5928V/5952V/5976V/6000V/6024V/6048V/6072V/6096V/6120V/6144V/6168V/6192V/6216V/6240V/6264V/6288V/6312V/6336V/6360V/6384V/6408V/6432V/6456V/6480V/6504V/6528V/6552V/6576V/6600V/6624V/6648V/6672V/6696V/6720V/6744V/6768V/6792V/6816V/6840V/6864V/6888V/6912V/6936V/6960V/6984V/7008V/7032V/7056V/7080V/7104V/7128V/7152V/7176V/7200V/7224V/7248V/7272V/7296V/7320V/7344V/7368V/7392V/7416V/7440V/7464V/7488V/7512V/7536V/7560V/7584V/7608V/7632V/7656V/7680V/7704V/7728V/7752V/7776V/7800V/7824V/7848V/7872V/7896V/7920V/7944V/7968V/7992V/8016V/8040V/8064V/8088V/8112V/8136V/8160V/8184V/8208V/8232V/8256V/8280V/8304V/8328V/8352V/8376V/8400V/8424V/8448V/8472V/8496V/8520V/8544V/8568V/8592V/8616V/8640V/8664V/8688V/8712V/8736V/8760V/8784V/8808V/8832V/8856V/8880V/8904V/8928V/8952V/8976V/9000V/9024V/9048V/9072V/9096V/9120V/9144V/9168V/9192V/9216V/9240V/9264V/9288V/9312V/9336V/9360V/9384V/9408V/9432V/9456V/9480V/9504V/9528V/9552V/9576V/9600V/9624V/9648V/9672V/9696V/9720V/9744V/9768V/9792V/9816V/9840V/9864V/9888V/9912V/9936V/9960V/9984V/10008V/10032V/10056V/10080V/10104V/10128V/10152V/10176V/10200V/10224V/10248V/10272V/10296V/10320V/10344V/10368V/10392V/10416V/10440V/10464V/10488V/10512V/10536V/10560V/10584V/10608V/10632V/10656V/10680V/10704V/10728V/10752V/10776V/10800V/10824V/10848V/10872V/10896V/10920V/10944V/10968V/10992V/11016V/11040V/11064V/11088V/11112V/11136V/11160V/11184V/11208V/11232V/11256V/11280V/11304V/11328V/11352V/11376V/11400V/11424V/11448V/11472V/11496V/11520V/11544V/11568V/11592V/11616V/11640V/11664V/11688V/11712V/11736V/11760V/11784V/11808V/11832V/11856V/11880V/11904V/11928V/11952V/11976V/12000V/12024V/12048V/12072V/12096V/12120V/12144V/12168V/12192V/12216V/12240V/12264V/12288V/12312V/12336V/12360V/12384V/12408V/12432V/12456V/12480V/12504V/12528V/12552V/12576V/12600V/12624V/12648V/12672V/12696V/12720V/12744V/12768V/12792V/12816V/12840V/12864V/12888V/12912V/12936V/12960V/12984V/13008V/13032V/13056V/13080V/13104V/13128V/13152V/13176V/13200V/13224V/13248V/13272V/13296V/13320V/13344V/13368V/13392V/13416V/13440V/13464V/13488V/13512V/13536V/13560V/13584V/13608V/13632V/13656V/13680V/13704V/13728V/13752V/13776V/13800V/13824V/13848V/13872V/13896V/13920V/13944V/13968V/13992V/14016V/14040V/14064V/14088V/14112V/14136V/14160V/14184V/14208V/14232V/14256V/14280V/14304V/14328V/14352V/14376V/14400V/14424V/14448V/14472V/14496V/14520V/14544V/14568V/14592V/14616V/14640V/14664V/14688V/14712V/14736V/14760V/14784V/14808V/14832V/14856V/14880V/14904V/14928V/14952V/14976V/15000V/15024V/15048V/15072V/15096V/15120V/15144V/15168V/15192V/15216V/15240V/15264V/15288V/15312V/15336V/15360V/15384V/15408V/15432V/15456V/15480V/15504V/15528V/15552V/15576V/15600V/15624V/15648V/15672V/15696V/15720V/15744V/15768V/15792V/15816V/15840V/15864V/15888V/15912V/15936V/15960V/15984V/16008V/16032V/16056V/16080V/16104V/16128V/16152V/16176V/16200V/16224V/16248V/16272V/16296V/16320V/16344V/16368V/16392V/16416V/16440V/16464V/16488V/16512V/16536V/16560V/16584V/16608V/16632V/16656V/16680V/16704V/16728V/16752V/16776V/16800V/16824V/16848V/16872V/16896V/16920V/16944V/16968V/16992V/17016V/17040V/17064V/17088V/17112V/17136V/17160V/17184V/17208V/17232V/17256V/17280V/17304V/17328V/17352V/17376V/17400V/17424V/17448V/17472V/17496V/17520V/17544V/17568V/17592V/17616V/17640V/17664V/17688V/17712V/17736V/17760V/17784V/17808V/17832V/17856V/17880V/17904V/17928V/17952V/17976V/18000V/18024V/18048V/18072V/18096V/18120V/18144V/18168V/18192V/18216V/18240V/18264V/18288V/18312V/18336V/18360V/18384V/18408V/18432V/18456V/18480V/18504V/18528V/18552V/18576V/18600V/18624V/18648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Dust off old tools and put them to good use helping others

From Page 20

"People by nature are good. They love to discover avenues where they can

help and be sure their donations go directly to a good cause, whether it's financial or donating their skills and talents to help out. We often

find guests have left cheques for Wells of Hope before they go."

With the help of John Duerkson of Penner Building

Centre and the generosity of Niagara residents, van der Zalm is confident the trade school will be as successful as all his other efforts in

Guatemala have been - that is where his faith shines through.

"If enough people work together under the umbrella of love, you can move mountains," he says.

"That's God working through us. I have no fear

of taking on other projects. When people ask me what I do, I like to say I move mountains - with the help of

many others. And there are no limits to what we can accomplish together - there is no end in sight."



Penny Coles Niagara Advance

John Duerkson of Penner Building Centre on Niagara Stone Rd. in Virgil has set up a buggy for tools to be dropped off for Ted van der Zalm of Wells of Hope by Jan. 31. The tools will be used at a trade school now under construction in Guatemala, where van der Zalm is heading at the end of the month.

Healthy living seminar at St. Mikes

Bonnie Giampa and Briar Krieger, founders of the 8-Week Challenge, are offering a free seminar to learn about better food choices.

Learn what is in the foods you eat, how manufacturers hide ingredients, how to enjoy healthy treats. It's a family event, great for learning how to take control of what you eat for the new year.

It's at St. Michael Catholic School on Niagara Stone Rd., Saturday, Jan. 27, from 7 to 8 p.m.



It's a new year - so how about a new, healthier you!

Be part of the success with the Simpson's Ideal Protein weight loss program.

15% off new sign-up fees throughout January!

Come and see our knowledgeable staff and inquire about getting started today. Join other Simpson's customers who have shed over 4,000 lbs.

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PRIME CUTS WINTER FREEZER PACKS Includes: • 4lbs NY Strip Steaks • 4lbs Boneless Pork Sirloin Steaks • 4lbs Standing Beef or Roast Steaks • 12lbs Ham or Sirloin Roast • 4lbs Sausage or London Broils • 4lbs Pork Loin Chops • 4lbs Boneless Pork Loin Roast • 12lbs Whole Chicken (just as low as you want it) • 4lbs Medium Ground Beef or Prime Cuts Beef Burgers Only \$298 Substitutions Can Be Made	CUT FROM "AAA" CANADIAN BEEF CHEF STYLE PRIME RIB ROAST AGED TO PERFECTION (MINIMUM 4 WKS) \$9.99/lb	CUT FROM PREMIUM AKA BEEF BONE IN CAPLESS RIBEYE STEAKS \$11.99/lb	PRIME CUTS SPECIALTY CHORIZO SAUSAGES IDEAL FOR ANY RECIPE \$3.99/lb	CUT FROM PORK ONTARIO PORK BONELESS BUTTERFLY PORK STEAKS \$3.99/lb
PRIME CUTS DINN PORK (BRACCHI) STUFFED WITH SAUSAGE & BACON ONIONS \$4.99/lb	MADE FROM BONELESS SKIMLESS BREADED CHICKEN CHICKEN ROAST \$3.79/lb	MADE FROM BONELESS SKIMLESS BREADED CHICKEN CHICKEN CUTLETS - IDEAL FOR CHICKEN PIZZA \$5.99/lb	FRESH ONTARIO JUNCO CHICKEN WINGS \$3.99/lb	

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FAMILY PACK
11.00 Kg

\$6.99 LB.
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CUT FROM CANADA-AA
15.41 Kg

\$5.99 LB.
LEAN STEWING BEEF
FAMILY PACK
13.21 Kg

\$5.99
MINI HAMS
SPRINGER'S
1 KG

\$6.99 LB.
CAPLESS PRIME RIB STEAK
CUT FROM CANADA-AA
FAMILY PACK
15.41 Kg

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Sports

Wine Guys face off against CHCH Sportsliners for charity

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

It's the fourth annual Niagara Winter Classic on-ice competition, for charity and for bragging rights.

The CHCH Sportsliners are one up on the Wine Guys, says Bill Brouwer, a cameraman for CHCH.

And they've "stolen" Lord Mayor Pat Darte to

play for them.

By stolen, Brouwer says, he means "we thought of it first. Can he play hockey? He says he can."

When asked by the Advance if he's a good hockey player, Darte replied with an emphatic "no."

"I'd have to say average or below," he elaborated. "I haven't played in a few years."

He's on skates quite

often, though - he's coached a high school team for the last five years.

"And those kids, they fly. I have to get the heck out of the way, so I do a lot of skating."

He's looking forward to playing, he said.

"I'm glad I was asked. I watched it last year and it looked like a lot of fun, and it's for charity," said Darte.

See Page 27

Editor Penny Coles
905-468-5283, ext. 103 penny.coles@sunmedia.ca



The Sportsliners and the Wine Guys shook hands after last year's rubber match, which the Sportsliners won 8-4 at the Meridian Credit Union. The Wine Guys are looking for a win this year, says Coyote's Run winemaker David Sheppard. The fourth annual Niagara Winter Classic is at the Meridian Credit Union Arena in Virgil Saturday, Jan. 24 at 1:30 p.m.



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Wine Guys 'going to kill' Sportsliners, Coyote's Run winemaker promises

From Page 26

"I would just say keep your expectations low, or better yet don't have any expectations and then I won't disappoint anyone. I'm sure it will be a humbling experience."

The Wine Guys, a group of winemakers from across Niagara, won't start until after the 2015 season. Brouwer says they took it easy on them for their first outing - and the Sportsliners won the next two. Last year's rubber match was intended to be the final on-ice get-together, but the need for bragging rights contin-

ues.

The fact that it's a popular event for spectators, a lot of fun for the players and a fundraiser for the NOTL Kinsmen were also motivating factors for heading to the Meridian Credit Union for the fourth time, said Brouwer.

If it was up to him he might say no to it - he's the oldest on the team and feeling his age, he jokes.

But he can't turn down the opportunity to help those in the community who benefit from the good works of the Kinsmen, he said.

More than \$1,000 was raised at last year's event, money that went to cystic fibrosis research and several community organizations, including local sports.

The turnout has grown enormously since the first event, as spectators realized what they were missing, and the good crowd makes the game more interesting and more fun for the players.

The Sportsliners play about four games a year, all fundraisers, and although they're not bad hockey players, they take the competition with a grain of salt—they are

really out to have fun and raise some funds for local charity, says Brouwer.

There's more fun off-ice after the game at a fundraising party, when people love to hooch with CHCH personalities. Nick Dixon, well-known news anchor at CHCH, won't be on the ice but he will be MC of the event, and is a lot of fun, says Brouwer.

Reporter and anchor Sean Leathong will play, as he did last year.

The Wine Guys, says Coyote's Run winemaker Dave Sheppard, are a mix of ages.

"At closer to 60 than 50," he says, he's one of the

oldest.

But it's played in the spirit of charity and good fun, and if it means going through a bottle of pain pills the next day, it's worth it, he says.

Although not all this year's players are winemakers, they're all in the industry, including a teacher and a student from Niagara College, said Sheppard.

But they're all pretty much the same when it comes to ability - they're not serious hockey players, he says. He still intends to beat the Sportsliners, though.

"We're going to kill

them. It's a matter of pride. Last year they took it to us. This year we're going to give it a solid effort."

The game featuring Niagara's Wine Guys versus the CHCH Sportsliners is set for Saturday, Jan. 24 at 1:30 p.m. at the Meridian Credit Union Arena.

The NOTL Kinsmen will be raffling prizes and running a wine and beer bar to support community projects.

The Meridian Credit Union is again sponsoring the ice time.

Admission is free but donations will be appreciated.

Niagara-on-the-Lake Worship Directory

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
323 Simcoe Street

11:00 am Worship Service and Sunday School
Minister: Rev. Barry McGee
Music Director: Dr. Gertrude Hoekstra
905-468-3343
www.standrewsnic.org

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1453 York Road, St. David's
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www.stdavidsqc.org
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Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM
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Sunday, January 25th
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Worship Service 10:45 am
Message by Stephen Cox
"The Road to Heaven"
Childcare provided during service

Niagara's United Mennonite Church
"Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community"

11:00 am Worship Service
Message by Pastor Rudy Irlin
"The Upside-Down Kingdom"
Read Luke 4:14-30
905-468-3313
http://www.redbrickchurch.ca

Amazing Grace United Church

10:30 a.m. Sunday Service
Minister: Rev. Laura Borgerson
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www.graceunitedchurch.com

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GateWay Community Church (P.A.O.C.)
1665 Four Mile Creek Road
905-468-8971

Sunday, January 25th • 10:30 am
January Theme: "New Season"
Pastor Dave Tunklitz Ministering
www.gatewaycc.ca
check here for events and podcasts.

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Worship Service 10:00 am
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10:30 am Worship Service
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Denial
Pastor Greg Alderton
www.villagebiblechurch.ca

life abundant niagara
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Ranger bantams on winning streak

The Niagara Rangers bantam girls won four of their five games at a Newmarket tournament this weekend, coming home with gold.

Sponsored by the Meridian Credit Union, the team was competing in the annual AAA tournament.

At their Friday night game, the Rangers faced a strong home team and won 54-24 with 10 of 11 Rangers contributing to the scoreboard.

Saturday saw the Rangers face the Etobicoke Thunder, no match for the Rangers who came out on top 49-24.

Saturday evening the Rangers faced the provincially ranked eighth place uduary Jam.

With Sudbury knocking down four three-pointers, the Rangers were defeated 36-33.

The Rangers did not stay down for long. Sunday they faced a larger Kingston team in a tough, scrappy game but managed to keep control and won 47-36, putting the girls through to the gold medal game, once again against Sudbury Jam.

This time the Rangers were ready to shut down the sharp-shooters and came away with the gold in a 27-14 win.

This is the third gold medal for the Niagara Rangers bantam girls in three tournaments.

Come on out to Crossroads Public School for 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. games on Sunday, Jan. 25 as the girls participate in a mini tournament against North Toronto Huskies and the Markham bantam girls, last year's third and fourth Ontario ranked teams.

Maddie Crosbie, Sydney Grummett, Tess Puchalski, Maddie Caughill, Abbey McCulligh, Olivia Krieger, Julia Colevecchia and Ally Sentance (front) all contributed to the Niagara Rangers bantam girls tournament win in Newmarket last weekend. Missing from picture are Emily Campbell, Molly Taylor and Lenia Poltras.

Photo submitted



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NEUHOFF, Julianna (nee Stobbe) -
May 03, 1924-Jan. 15, 2015
Peacefully, at Heritage Place, in the early morning hours of Thursday, January 15, 2015, Julianna ended eternity. An unusual life has ended. She was a bride at the age of 19 in Deutsch Kasan in Poland and became a widow at age 31 in Canada. She immigrated to Alberta with her family in 1948, then on to Ontario in 1951. She was tragically widowed in 1955 but managed to survive and retain a mostly happy, complaint free and interesting lifestyle. She was predeceased by an infant daughter in 1944, by her husband in 1955, her parents, Reinhold (1877) & Lida Stobbe (1987) sister and brother-in-law Clara (1986) & Ludwig (2003) Gubler and daughter-in-law Margaret Lynn Neuhoof (December 1986). Mother moved to Pleasant Manor in September 2003-initially to an apartment, then on to Arborview and finally to Heritage Place in July 2014. Sincere thanks to the dignified care given by all staff at Pleasant Manor and Heritage Place, and to the entire administration team for their wise counsel/advice to us. We also thank Dr. J. Adams for his ongoing care and concern for her for so many, many years. Julianna is survived by daughter Ingrid (Eckhard) Ragier, grandchildren Sonja (Doreen) and Karl (Edith). She was "Super Oma" to her delightful little great grandchildren - Olivia, Emma, Nora and Evander. Several nieces & nephews, here and there, also remember her. She is also survived by a son and his family, especially adored by grandson Steve (Stephanie). Cremation will be followed by a private interment. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Pleasant Manor or take some time to count your non-material blessings with love, joy and peace. Online condolences at tallmanfuneralthomes.ca



TOGETHER AGAIN

TUTTY, Iona

September 24, 1921 - January 14, 2015
Passed away peacefully surrounded by loving family. Beloved wife of 69 years to the late Bryan (2013). Loved Mother of Lynne Gill and Robin Tutty. Cherished Nana of Vanessa Stahlbrand (Matt), Amanda Gill, Charles, Alexander, Greg (Charlotte), and Sophia Tutty. Great grandmother of Cameron and Drew Stahlbrand. Iona proudly served in the VAD in WWII. She & Bryan had a love of travel and spent many happy winters in Ajijic, Mexico. Nothing made her smile more than to speak of her family. Cremation services have taken place. Arrangements entrusted to Cremation Society of Windsor & Essex Co., 3280 Douglass Avenue, (519-989-5449).

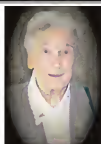
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WAUGH, William Robert (Bob) -
1917-2015 Died on Thursday, January 15, 2015 in St. Catharines after a brief illness, at the age of 97. Beloved husband of the late Audrey Bernice Graydon Waugh U.E. (June 1, 2009). Loving father of Peter and Stephen (Christine), cherished grandfather of Daniel (Carmela) and their children Enrica and Moo, David (Emily) and Peter, all of California and Jesse, England, dear brother of Elizabeth Mayfield (Bill), Toronto. Bob will be missed by many nieces, nephews and friends. Predeceased by brothers, John and Ross and sister, Margaret Bailey. Bob was Lieutenant Commander RCNVR during WW II. He retired from General Motors - Canada and USA after 51 years of service. After retiring, Bob continued with the Financial Executive Institute of Canada, with Canadian Institute for the Blind and also gave his time generously to many charitable organizations. Bob's ashes are being placed in the family plot in Cambridge's Galt Cemetery. Those who wish may make a memorial donation to a charity of one's choice. Memories, photos and condolences can be shared at www.morgenfuneral.com

WILSON, Stanley S., B.A., B.Sc. PENG.
November 14, 1918 - January 6, 2015
Stanley passed away peacefully at Upper Canada Lodge after a long illness. He is survived by his loving wife Laura, son Michael, granddaughters: Amber (Robin) Lynley and Tiffany (Ryan) Smye. Great-grandchildren: Desmond and Jameson Lynley and Olivia and Patrick Smye. A Memorial will be announced at a later date.

In Memoriams

In Memoriams



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(905) 834-9732
A Child's World
Child Care On-site
(905) 835-9752

Steele Street Public School
214 Steele Street, Port Colborne
(905) 834-4333

ST. CATHARINES

Alexandria Public School
* Students will attend Harriet Tubman Public School
84 Henry Street, St. Catharines
(905) 685-5489
YMCA Child Care On-site
(905) 684-5951

Applemoore Public School
130 Woodson Street, St. Catharines
(905) 684-4359

Burleigh Hill Public School
15 Burleigh Hill Drive, St. Catharines
(905) 227-6641

Carleton Public School
1 Carlton Park Dr., St. Catharines
(905) 934-5243
YMCA Child Care On-site
(905) 937-6621

Connaught Public School
28 Prince Street, St. Catharines
(905) 682-6609
A Child's World
Child Care On-site
(905) 682-3834

E.L. McElroy Public School
16 Berkeley Drive, St. Catharines
(905) 934-7344

Edith Cavell Public School
1 Monck Street, St. Catharines
(905) 684-6545
Western Hill Day Care
On-site
(905) 684-6288

Femdale Public School
35 Femdale Avenue, St. Catharines
(905) 684-1101
A Child's World
Child Care On-site
(905) 682-7999

Green Ridge Public School
101 South Drive, St. Catharines
(905) 685-9586
YMCA Child Care On-site
(905) 684-4770

Gracefield Public School
171 Bayview Drive, St. Catharines
(905) 934-1411
YMCA Child Care On-site
(905) 646-9622

Grapevine Public School
106 Fox Street South, St. Catharines
(905) 984-5517
YMCA Child Care On-site
(905) 682-9455

Lincoln Centennial Public School
348 Scott Street, St. Catharines
(905) 937-5110
Bunting Child Care On-site
(905) 937-0170

Lockview Public School
305 Bunting Road, St. Catharines
(905) 934-3331
YMCA Child Care On-site
(905) 935-8427

Maywood Public School
* Open house at Alexandria Public School - students will attend Harriet Tubman Public School
140 Hays Street, St. Catharines
(905) 685-8451

Memorial Public School
* Open house at Alexandria Public School - students will attend Harriet Tubman Public School
17 Weland Avenue, St. Catharines
(905) 685-7347

Oakridge Public School
1 Marsdale Avenue, St. Catharines
(905) 684-6589
YMCA Child Care On-site
(905) 685-6105

Parnell Public School
507 Geneva Street, St. Catharines
(905) 934-3348
YMCA Child Care On-site
(905) 937-5260

Pine Grove Public School
690 Lake Street, St. Catharines
(905) 935-1901
YMCA Child Care On-site
(905) 934-9091

Port Weller Public School
273 Parnell Road, St. Catharines
(905) 934-3322
YMCA Child Care On-site
(905) 937-0312

Power Glen Public School
34 Weland Street, St. Catharines
(905) 684-7429
YMCA Child Care On-site
(905) 984-3344

Prince of Wales Public School
95 Facer Street, St. Catharines
(905) 937-2225
Boys and Girls Club Kids
First Child Care On-site
(905) 937-1672

Prince Philip Public School
620 Van Klee Street, St. Catharines
(905) 934-2525
YMCA Child Care On-site
(905) 935-9973

Westdale Public School
130 Rykert Street, St. Catharines
(905) 682-9284
YMCA Child Care On-site
(905) 397-9095

William Hamilton Merritt Public School
114 Linwell Road, St. Catharines
(905) 937-0510
YMCA Child Care On-site
(905) 934-9047

Woodland Public School
1511 7th Street South, St. Catharines
(905) 685-1331
A Child's World
Child Care On-site
(905) 359-2385

THOROLD
Ontario Public School
550 Alenburgh Road, Thorold
(905) 227-2851

Prince of Wales Public School
40 Pine Street, Thorold
(905) 227-1321
YMCA Child Care On-site
After School Program

Richmond Street Public School
153 Richmond Street, Thorold
(905) 227-2971
Thornhill Community Activities Group
After School Program

Westmount Public School
73 Ann Street West, Thorold
(905) 227-3827
YMCA Child Care
* supervised walk to location
(905) 680-7164

WAINFLEET
William E. Brown Public School
31870 Lee Street, Wainfleet
(905) 899-3471

Winger Public School
53220 Winger Road, Wainfleet
(905) 899-3821

WELLAND
Diamond Trail Public School
315 Southworth Street, Welland
(905) 734-3208

Fitch Street Public School
164 Fitch Street, Welland
(905) 732-3683

Glendale Public School
24 Farnham Avenue, Welland
(905) 735-5213
YMCA Child Care On-site
(905) 734-1209

Gordon Public School
468 Thorold Rd. W., Welland
(905) 734-3730

Plymouth Public School
111 First Street, Welland
(905) 732-4110
A Child's World
* supervised walk to location
(905) 735-8312

Princess Elizabeth Public School
330 Schomberg Avenue, Welland
(905) 734-3460

Quaker Road Public School
333 Quaker Road, Welland
(905) 732-5412
Strive Niagara
Child Care On-site
(905) 735-1465

Ross Public School
358 Niagara Street, Welland
(905) 734-4273
A Child's World
Child Care On-site
(905) 735-1162

WEST LINCOLN

Calator Central Public School
1794 Regional Rd. E, Calator Centre
(905) 957-7473

College Street Public School
132 College St., Smithville
(905) 957-7024
YMCA Child Care On-site
(905) 956-0995

Gainsborough Public School
5459 Highway 20 R #2, Ains
(905) 686-6223



www.dsbni.org

Come on in to our Kindergarten Open House! Visit anytime between 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Thursday, February 5



**PLAY IS OFTEN TALKED ABOUT
AS IF IT WERE A RELIEF FROM
SERIOUS LEARNING.**

**BUT FOR CHILDREN
PLAY IS *
SERIOUS LEARNING.**

**PLAY IS REALLY THE WORK
OF CHILDHOOD.**

Fred Rogers



Play is serious business for children!

Young children are always on the go. Whether it's running, climbing, dressing up, taking things apart or putting them back together again, they seldom sit still. While this sometimes chaotic activity may seem like "just play," it's anything but. The reality is there's much more happening beneath the surface.

What they're doing	What they're learning
Puzzles	→ Problem solving, concentration
Playing with blocks	→ Shapes, recognizing differences, logic
Playing dress up	→ Self expression, creativity, imagination
Running, jumping,	→ How the body works, strength and flexibility
skipping	
Games with friends	→ Social skills, taking turns and sharing
Singing and dancing	→ Listening, rhythm and coordination
Sand and water play	→ Solids, liquids, measurement

Play helps stimulate children's intellectual growth. By engaging in different kinds of play, children learn how to reason, hypothesize, and interact with one another. DSBN Kindergarten programs pair that with academic learning, such as numbers and letters, to help children build a powerful foundation for a successful school career. Best of all? They'll have fun doing it!

**Come on in to
our Kindergarten Open House!**

**Visit us anytime between
10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
on Thursday, February 5**

www.dsbni.org/kindergarten

